AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 16, as follows:

Figure 1 illustrates an overall system block diagram of the general arrangement of the embodiments of the invention. Within Figure 1 a reference sequence comprising reference sequence fields/frames 8 is input to a detector module 2. Similarly, a test sequence of video fields/frames [[8]] 6 (interchangeably referred to herein as either the test sequence, or the degraded sequence) is also input in to the detector module 2. The test sequence is obtained by inputting the reference sequence to a system to be tested (such as a video recording device, a broadcast system, or a video codec, for example), and then taking the output of the system under test as the test sequence. The detector module 2 acts to detect various video characteristics of the input reference and test video fields/frames and generates video characteristic values which are then output to an integration module 4. The integration module 4 integrates the video characteristics values together to give a predicted video quality value 10, which is output therefrom.